

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 AGR-05

SWF-01 /074 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE/TPHDUNLOP/MJ

APPROVED BY EUR - JAARMITAGE

C - WSHINN

S/S REWOODS

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P 060035Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 267738

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, RO

SUBJECT: BOGDAN CALL ON ARMITAGE DECEMBER 2

1. AMBASSADOR BOGDAN CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE DECEMBER 2. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED INCLUDED NEGOTIATION OF COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT, PROSPECTS FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION, THE RCP 11TH PARTY CONGRESS, AND A POSSIBLE ANDREI VISIT.

2. COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT: ARMITAGE GAVE BOGDAN A COPY OF OUR DRAFT COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT, REMINDING HIM THAT WE ARE EXCHANGING INFORMAL COMMENTS ON OUR AND GOR DRAFTS IN BUCHAREST ON THE MATTER BUT THAT UNTIL THE TRADE BILL IS PASSED WE COULD NOT, OF COURSE, ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS. BOGDAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION, NOTING THAT AN EXCHANGE OF DRAFTS WILL HELP POSITION BOTH
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SIDES FOR PROMPT NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT WHEN THE

TIME COMES.

3. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION: AMBASSADOR BOGDAN NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN PRESENT ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION IN BUCHAREST WHEN THIS SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED BY PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. BOGDAN NOTED PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S "PREOCCUPATION" WITH INCREASING U.S. INVEST-

MENT IN ROMANIA. CEAUSESCU HAD, HE BELIEVED, A "TARGET" IN VIEW OF A HALF-BILLION DOLLARS OF U.S. INVESTMENT. AS A STEP IN THIS DIRECTION CEAUSESCU HAD IN MIND, HE THOUGHT, THE POSSIBILITY OF SELECTING A GIVEN AREA FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT "FROM START TO FINISH," INCLUDING BOTH PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING OF FOOD.

4. HE NOTED IT WAS NOT SUGGESTED WHETHER SUCH A PROJECT COULD INVOLVE THE USG DIRECTLY OR WOULD HAVE TO BE ARRANGED WITH SOME LARGE U.S. FIRM, SUCH AS FMC CORP. BOGDAN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ANY USG DIRECT INVOLVEMENT WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER BUT MENTIONED VAGUELY POSSIBILITY OF PL-480 FUNDS. ARMITAGE DOUBTED ANY SUCH FUNDS NOW AVAILABE FOR ROMANIA AND THEN ASKED WHETHER THE ROMANIANS HAVE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION. BOGDAN SAID HE WOULD ENQUIRE.

5. ROMANIAN PARTY CONGRESS: AMBASSADOR BOGDAN REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS AT THE RECENT RCP CONGRESS. WHILE THERE HAD BEEN NO DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS, HE THOUGHT THE CONGRESS HAD "CONSECRATED" THE BROAD PERSPECTIVE ADOPTED BY THE RCP IN ITS APPROACH BOTH TO THE DEFINITION OF THE FUTURE COURSE FOR ROMANIA AND TO THE RCP'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER "PROGRESSIVE" PARTIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. BOGDAN STRESSED FACT THAT INVITATIONS HAD BEEN SENT TO AND ACCEPTED BY MANY NON-COMMUNIST LEFTIST POLITICAL ENTITIES. HE CITED THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY MEMBER ATTENDANCE FOR HALF-DAY AS AN EXAMPLE. BOGDAN POINTED OUT THE EMPHASIS PLACED BY CEAUSESCU AT THE CONGRESS ON "RECONCILIATION," A TERM HE SAID CEAUSESCU CONFIDENTIAL

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HAD USED TWICE: ONCE TO URGE A BURYING OF THE HATCHET BETWEEN THE PARTIES OF THE LEFT, COMMUNIST AND NON-COMMUNIST; AND ONCE IN REFERENCE TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE.

6. BOGDAN ALSO COMMENTED ON THE UNIQUE POSITION OCCUPIED BY THE U.S. IN THE REPORT WHICH WAS ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONGRESS. DEALING WITH

ROMANIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS, THE REPORT HAD MENTIONED EACH SOCIALIST STATE SEPARATELY, BUT HAD DEALT WITH THE "DEVELOPED WORLD" IN GROUPS, EXCEPT FOR THE U.S., WHICH ENJOYED ITS "OWN PLACE" THEREIN. THIS SIGNIFIES THE IMPORTANCE ROMANIA PLACES ON ITS RELATIONS WITH THE U.S., BOGDAN STRESSED.

7. RE INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS AT THE CONGRESS, BOGDAN SAID HE THOUGHT THE RESECTIONING OF THE RCP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ITS RENAMING AS THE "POLITICAL EXEUCTIVE COMMITTEE" REPRESENTS A STRENGTHENING OF THE PARTY MACHINERY AT THE TOP. HE OBSERVED THAT THE PARTY IS THE REAL POLICY-MAKING BODY IN ROMANIA; THE GOVERNMENTAL APPARATUS IS SO WELL MELDED INTO THE PARTY STRUCTURE AND VICE VERSA THAT IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE TOP PARTY BODY TO FUNCTION AS POLICY MAKER WHILE THE GOVERNMENT MAHCINERY IS THE "EXECUTIVE AGENT."

8. ANDREI VISIT: ARMITAGE MENTIONED THAT WE HOPE THAT STEFAN ANDREI MAY BE ABLE TO VISIT THE U.S. IN SOME CAPACITY IN THE COMING YEAR. BOGDAN AGREED THAT THIS IS AN EXCELLENT IDEA, ONLY THAT "THE PROPER FORMULA" WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: lzenbel0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE267738
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EE/TPHDUNLOP/MJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740353-0780
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741254/aaaabtxs.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: lzenbel0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by lzenbel0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOGDAN CALL ON ARMITAGE DECEMBER 2
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, ETRD, RO, (ARMITAGE, JOHN A), (BOGDAN)
To: BUCHAREST
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005